REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 35 are pending and rejected. By this Response, claims 1, 6, 7 and 35 are amended, leaving claims 2-5 and 8-12 unchanged.

35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 5-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

According to the Office action, in claim 5, "the oil" lacks antecedant basis. Claim 5 was previously amended amended to depend from claim 4. Please Response dated August 8, 2007. Claim 4 recites "a flow of oil" and provides the proper antecedent basis for "the oil" recited in claim 5. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

According to the Office action, in claims 6-10, it is unclear whether the "multi-stage chiller" or the "aftercooler" are components that are encompassed in the purifier's operability to chill out flow of fuel to condense and remove undesirable compounds. Claim 6 and 7 have been amended to clarify that the multi-stage chiller and the aftercooler are components that are encompassed in the purifier's operability to chill the flow of fuel to condense and remove undesirable compounds. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 2 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nathan (US Patent 4,450,900) in view of Anderson et al. (US Patent 5,031,690).

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the purifer is "operable to chill out the flow of fuel to a temperature below the freezing point of water to condense out and remove at least a portion of the remaining undesirable compounds from the flow of fuel". Support for this amendment can be found in the Specification at page 15, lines 17-24.

Nathan is directed to a mobile unit for controlling atmospheric conditions in an enclosed space such as a trailer. This is inaposite to the claimed invention, which is directed to a a fuel conditioning skid for an engine and includes "an inlet connectable to a source to receive a flow of fuel". The Nathan device includes a fan for circulating air from a service chamber 70 into the

unit 10. The Nathan unit includes a pre-filter 21 and chemical absorbant filters 22 for removing airborne particles in the air. The Nathan unit further includes an air cooler 25 having coils cooled by a compressor 26 and a water eliminator 27 to remove moisture in the air. A drain 29 from the water elminator 27 collects condensed water and disposes of it.

Neither Nathan nor Anderson, alone or in combination, describes a fuel conditioning skid including all of the limitations recited in amdended claim 1. Specifically, Nathan and Anderson fail to teach or suggest a purifier operable to chill out the flow of fuel to a temperature below the freezing point of water to condense out and remove at least a portion of the remaining undesirable compounds from the flow of fuel as recited in claim 1. Rather, Nathan states only that the air passes through an air cooler 25 and a water eliminator 27 to remove moisture in the air. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 depends from claim1 and is allowable for at least that reason. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 35 has been amended to recite that the compressor is in fluid communication with the inlet cleaner, the compressor receiving the flow of fuel at a first pressure and discharging the flow of fuel at a second pressure, the second pressure being greater than the first pressure and at least 15 psig. Support for this amendment can be found in the Specification at page 19, lines 10-12. Thus, the fuel conditioning skid can increase the delivery pressure of the fuel to a level suited to the particular engine to which the fuel conditioning skid is supplying fuel to at the outlet.

Neither Nathan nor Anderson, alone or in combination, describes a fuel conditioning skid including all of the limitations recited in amdended claim 35. Specifically, Nathan and Anderson fail to teach or suggest that the compressor 26 is capable of increasing pressure of the circulating air 20 to at least 15 psig. The Nathan unit is intended to control the temperature of air within an enclosed space, such as an underground work chamber. Thus, the air circulating therethrough is maintained at approximately atmospheric pressures. There is no motivation to pressurize the circulating air. Furthermore, it is not clear that the compressor 26 is intended to increase the pressure of the air flowing through the unit 10. According to Nathan, "the air then passes through an air cooler 25 having coils cooled by a compressor 26 located further on in the system". While the compressor 26 is located in the air duct 31, it appears that the compressor 26 is provided to act on a gas or fluid flowing within the coils of the air cooler 25, rather than the air

that is flowing over the coils. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 4-7 and 9-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nathan in view of Anderson as applied to claims 1 and 2, and further in view of Koethe (US Patent 6,360,730). Claims 4-7 and 9-12 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least that reason, as Koethe fails to remedy the deficiencies discussed above with respect to claim 1. Furthermore, the Applicant respectfully asserts that there is no motivation to combine the teachings of Nathan and Anderson with Koethe. The Nathan and Anderson references are directed to systems for cooling a flow of air. In contrast, Koethe is directed to a system for supercooling a flow of pressurized liquid jet fuel. One of skill in the art would not look to the teachings of the Koethe reference to modify the Nathan and Anderson references. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

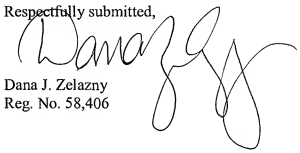
Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nathan in view of Anderson as applied to claims 1 and 2, and further in view of Provost (US Patent 5,722,229). Claim 3 depends from claim 1 and is allowable for at least that reason, as Provost fails to remedy the deficiencies discussed above with respect to claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nathan in view of Anderson and Koethe as applied to claims 1, 2, 6 and 7 and further in view of Provost. Claim 8 depends from claim 1 and is allowable for at least that reason, as Provost fails to remedy the deficiencies discussed above with respect to claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Entry of this amendment and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



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